Lenape Names for Money

These are names and images of denominations of Money used by the Lenape or Delaware Indians and made from hides. Some of the names for Money were based on the value of animal skins set by traders or trading posts. In the first column there are links in blue that can be clicked to take you to the Lenape Talking Dictionary (www.talk-lenape.org) where you can hear the Lenape name.

kwëti sèns https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18482		cent; penny sèns is from the English word cents
palenàxk sens https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18483		nickle; five cents
tèlën sèns https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=12834		dime; ten cents
kwëti nahënëm https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=5351 **nisha mpìt** https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=15160		quarter This comes from the Lenape name for a raccoon and $0.25 is what traders gave the Indians for a raccoon skin. The second word is borrowed from English "two bits."

pahsi https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=8145 -or- nisha nahënëm https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=17565		half dollar This word is the Lenape word for half. or two raccoons
kwëti palëpay https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11754 -or- kwëti ntalas https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14256		one dollar coin Susan B. Anthony dollar coin.
kwëti palëpay https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11754 -or- kwëti ntalas https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14256		one dollar coin The 2013 Native American $1 Coin commemorates the Delaware Treaty of 1778 with the newly formed United States. It was the first treaty with an Indian Tribe.
kwëti palëpay https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11754 -or- kwëti ntalas https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14256		one dollar The first name comes from the Lenape word for a deer and that is what traders gave for a deerskin.

Pampili Moni https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14277		Paper Money
kwëti palëpay https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=11754 -or- kwëti ntalas https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=14256		one dollar The first name comes from the Lenape word for a deer and that is what traders gave for a deerskin. The second word is borrowed from the English word dollar.
nisha palëpaya https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18478 The word ntalasa can replace palëpaya.		two dollars
palenàxk palëpaya https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18477 The word ntalasa can replace palëpaya.		five dollars
tèlën palëpaya https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18476 The word ntalasa can replace palëpaya.		ten dollars

nishinxke palëpaya https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18481 The word ntalasa can replace palëpaya.		twenty dollars
palenàxk txinxke palëpaya https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18480 The word ntalasa can replace palëpaya.		fifty dollars
kwëtapxki palëpaya https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=18479 The word ntalasa can replace palëpaya.		one hundred dollars
kekok https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=1851		wampum beads These beads were used as currency between the Lenape and the Europeans. For the Lenape they were also used in ceremonies.

Lenape Terms for Money

moni https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4901	money

wisaèk moni https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=17567	gold **money**; gold coin
nëmòniyëm https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=5978	my **money**
mòniyëm https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=4905	his **money**
mòniyëmu https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=12544	he has **money**
monihe https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=17951	he makes **money**; he earns **money**
nichanu https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=6303	interest on money (lit: it has a child)
ahànchi nichanu https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=24	compound interest (**money**) (lit: it has children again and again)
moninutay https://www.talk-lenape.org/detail?id=15270	wallet (lit: money-bag)

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